GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:332
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017
Food Testing Laboratories
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food testing laboratories in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of schemes under implementation along with funds sanctioned and expenditure incurred on such laboratories during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UTwise;

(c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to set up food testing laboratories equipped with modern facilities in every district in the country in order to check food adulteration; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to encourage the unemployed youth to set up such labs and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 332* FOR 24TH MARCH, 2017

(a) : Presently, 213 Food Testing Laboratories have been authorised by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for testing food products as per details at Annexure.

(b) & (c): A Central Sector Scheme for "Strengthening of Food Testing System in the Country including provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs" with a total outlay of Rs. 481.95 Crore to be implemented during 2016-17 to 2018-19, has been approved by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in September, 2016. The components of the Scheme include: (i) Strengthening of State Food Testing labs; (ii) Strengthening of Referral Food Testing Labs; (iii) Support for Mobile Food labs; (iv) Capacity Building of Food Testing Laboratories; (v) Incentivising States to utilise the facilities available in Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) Notified Labs; (vi) School Food & Hygiene Programme; and vii) creation of new food testing labs in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Sikkim. Details of funds sanctioned and expenditure incurred under the aforesaid Scheme, are as under:-

i) ? Four Crore each have been approved as mobilization advance for up-gradation of State Food laboratories of Punjab, Kerala & Assam;
ii) ? Fifty Lakh each has been approved for the State Food laboratories of Delhi, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal towards creation/renovation of infrastructure; and
iii) ? Four Crore have been released to one referral lab viz., Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, for procurement of two major equipment.

Besides, funds are also provided by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Scheme for Quality Assurance to provide financial assistance for setting up/ upgradation of Food Testing labs with major objectives of establishing a surveillance system for monitoring the quality and composition of food, to analyse the samples received from processing industry and other stakeholders and to ensure compliance of international and domestic standards on food in case of exports as well as imports.

(d): No such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.